

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 2 and 10 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 16 to read, as follows.

1. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation method for forming an image on a recording medium, said method comprising:

a toner applying first step for applying fusible powder toner to a recording medium to form a toner image;

a semi-fixing step of semi-fixing the toner image;

an ink applying a second step for applying liquid ink containing a coloring material to the [[said]] recording medium to form an ink image; and

a thermal fixing third step for thermally thermal fixing an image formed by said toner applying first step and said ink applying step.

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation method according to Claim 1, [[2,]] wherein said semi-fixing fourth step is a pressurizing fixing step.

4. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation method according to Claim 1, ~~any of the Claims 1 through 3~~, wherein the [[said]] fusible powder toner contains a black coloring agent.

5. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation method according to Claim 1, ~~any one of the Claims 1 through 3~~, wherein the ~~the~~ liquid ink comprises inks of the three colors of yellow, magenta, and cyan.

6. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation method according to Claim 1, ~~any one of the Claims 1 through 3~~, wherein the ~~the~~ liquid ink comprises inks of the four colors of yellow, magenta, cyan, and black.

7. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation method according to Claim 1, ~~any one of the Claims 1 through 3~~, wherein the ~~the~~ liquid ink comprises a coloring material and a non-aqueous solvent.

8. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation method according to Claim 1, ~~any one of the Claims 1 through 3~~, wherein, in said ink applying second ~~second~~ step, the liquid ink is applied to the recording medium by ink-jet recording.

9. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation apparatus for forming an image on a recording medium, said apparatus comprising:

toner applying first means for applying fusible powder toner to a recording medium to form a toner image;

fixing means for semi-fixing the toner image formed by said first means;

ink applying second means for applying liquid ink containing a coloring material to said recording medium to form an ink image; and

thermal fixing ~~third~~ means for thermally ~~thermal~~ fixing an image formed by said first and second means.

10. **(Canceled)**

11. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation apparatus according to Claim 9, ~~[[10,]]~~ wherein said fixing means comprises a pressurizing fixing means.

12. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation apparatus according to Claim 9, ~~any of the Claims 9 through 11~~, wherein the fusible powder toner contains a black coloring agent.

13. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation apparatus according to Claim 9, ~~any of the Claims 9 through 11~~, wherein the liquid ink comprises inks of the three colors of yellow, magenta, and cyan.

14. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation apparatus according to Claim 9, ~~any of the Claims 9 through 11~~, wherein the ~~[[said]]~~ liquid ink comprises inks of the four colors of yellow, magenta, cyan, and black.

15. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation apparatus according to Claim 9, ~~any of the Claims 9 through 11~~, wherein the ~~[[said]]~~ liquid ink comprises a coloring material and a non-aqueous solvent.

16. **(Currently Amended)** An image formation apparatus according to Claim 9,  
~~any of the Claims 9 through 11~~, wherein, said ink applying ~~second~~ means applies the liquid  
ink to the recording medium by ink-jet recording.